

10th Annual Pre-Service Teacher Conference



Special Edition Newsletter April 10, 2005

Thank You

Thank you for joining us February 17th-19th and making our 10th Annual NASA/NSU Pre-Service Teacher Conference a great success. Your enthusiastic participation and positive responses to all conference activities indicate that the conference was successful in reaching its objectives. The information and knowledge you gained in mathematics, science, and technology will help you to inspire the next generation of explorers.

Pre-Service Teacher Staff



This year's 10th Annual conference was a great success for the Pre-Service Teacher Program (PSTP).

The conference was able to assemble a group of dynamic speakers and workshop presenters to share with future educators their stories of learning and achieving fundamental skills to guide them in the classroom. World well-renowned educators that spoke to the attendees were Drs. Harry K. Wong (as shown),

Johnetta Cole, Ron His Horse Is Thunder, Francisco Reveles, Mr. Salome Thomas-El. Another highlight of the conference, was the career fair, with over 50 school divisions and graduate schools of education participating. Recruiters came from states as far away as



Alaska, California, Florida and New York. Some pre-service teachers were offered jobs on the spot. The PSTP is continuously reaching higher and working to build stronger relationships in the educational community.



Summer Institute

It's time to submit applications for the PSTI. The deadline is May 2, 2005. Download the application form at

edu.larc.nasa.gov/psti/2005_application.pdf. The Institute's participants study mathematics, science,

technology, and lesson design, and different learning styles for teaching children. It is a very inspiring and enthusiastic environment. Some find it hard to leave after finishing their two weeks of training. An outstanding faculty is there to give support and share their ideas about teaching lessons to 4th and 5th graders. Classroom activities and interacting with NASA personnel during on-site visits are both enriching and powerful. These experiences are life changing.

Did you see the NASA Mobile Lab?



For the first time, the Mobile Aerospace Education Laboratory (MAEL) from the Glenn Research Center in Ohio shared its facilities at the 10th Annual PSTC. The Mobile lab traveled over 700 miles to bring innovative technology that has transformed learning into state-of-the-art classrooms. Pre-service teachers were offered unique opportunities to explore the educational resources provided by MAEL. Many attendees were inspired and excited by the selections of "hands-on" activities and lively adventures that provided insight into facets of aeronautics and other areas. To learn more about MAEL visit its website at <http://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/MAEL/index.htm>.

Institute Training Begins



A 2-day PSTI Training Workshop is being held April 7-8, 2005 at NASA Langley Research Center. Participants will include principal investigators, site coordinators, and teaching faculty from pre-service teacher summer institutes at Johnson Space Center, Kennedy Space Center, Ames Research Center, and Sitting Bull College.

Mr. Dave Pearson, PSTI Site Coordinator, and PSTI faculty will facilitate the training. Training includes: 1) organizing the summer institute experiences, problem-based learning as a teaching model, lesson plans, hands-on science and mathematics, integrating technology into teaching a lesson, and program and student evaluations.

Downloading School Photos



School photos and other conference pictures are available at <http://edu.larc.nasa.gov/pstp>. If you are interested in contributing short personal essays, imaginative photos, or an update on your success as a pre-service teacher, please contact Shara Johnson shara.johnson@larc.nasa.gov or (757) 864-3217.

This newsletter is designed to act as your educational resource for the Pre-Service Teacher Program and to provide you with continuous information from PSTP Staff. The newsletter will keep you in touch with educational programs at Langley Research Center and their eligibility requirements.

Lighting Ceremony



The 10th Anniversary PSTP Conference featured an inspirational lighting ceremony to celebrate the Program's leadership and vision. The ceremony, led by PSTP Associate Director Carolyn Johnson, opened with the video, "Keeping Dreams Alive," and a photo montage of PSTP activities during the last ten years. The special ceremony also highlighted the following program milestones:

- 1998: First Pre-Service Teacher Summer Institutes are held at NASA Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA. There were 3 two-week institutes with 25 participants each. Today Institutes are held at Johnson Space Center, University of Sinte Gleska, Stennis Space Center, Ames Research Center, Sitting Bull College, Kennedy Space Center.
- 2002: First National Pre-Service Teacher Conference is held in Alexandria, VA with 400 participants. By 2004, the conference has over 700 participants from 40 states and 80 Universities.

Talent Showcase

Alexandria Public Schools Elementary All-City Chorus, Carolina Forest Elementary Taiko Ensemble, and a selection of pre-service teacher provided a full range of performances during the 10th Anniversary Conference. The All-City Chorus, Directed by Kathleen Baker and Jana Tousignant, entertained conference participants with tunes ranging from their opening "We Are The World" to the old Negro Spiritual "Wade in the Water." The vast beats of the Taiko Ensemble, led by Dr. Tim Peterson, brought in an entire arrangement of drumming sounds releasing 2,000 years of Japanese history (check-out Taiko history at www.taikoensemble.com/pages/history.htm). The Friday night talent show featured the most talented and diverse pre-service teachers in the country. DJ Gator Allmond electrified the audience with his humor and engaged a selected group in an impromptu performance. The talent show winner, Tawanna Campbell of Philander Smith University, received a standing ovation for her song "Somewhere Over the Rainbow." Second place winners were Woodsen Plummer, Gerald Holmes, Letitita Smith, Niakatia Le Blanc, Mariam Animashaun, and Erin Joseph of Southern University. Third place was awarded to Aaire Plume and Larry Ground of Blackfeet Community College. Honorable Mention went to Thomas Flagg from Langston University.

Poster Contest Judges announce their decision



For several hours, participants waited to hear the final announcement regarding the poster contest winners. Over 55 schools submitted abstracts and creative lesson designs on posters for the competition. Posters are judged based on the integration of science, math, and technology. Each year the poster contest continues to be popular and competitive, allowing big imaginations to run free with thought provoking designs. This year's first place winner was University of Texas at Brownsville. Dr. Sam Garcia is the faculty advisor. Second Place went to Xavier

University of Louisiana with Dr. Renée Akbar as the faculty advisor. Third place was awarded to Bennett College with Linda McCall, Michele Garrett and Joyce Spruill as faculty advisors. Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi received honorable mention. Jerilee Milligan and Nancy Reynolds are the faculty advisors.

Mirror Of Excellence



PSTP Ambassadors



"Are you sure this is all you need? I can do more", says an excited Christina Knotts, Ambassador and pre-service teacher at Delaware State University. As she organ-

izes the last badge at midnight, showing no signs of fatigue, another ambassador, shares the same sentiments. Brandon Middleton, a Morris College student, provides Ms. Knotts the momentum to want to continue. Ambassadors are specially selected from Pre-Service Teacher Institutes to represent the program and provide conference assistance. "I love the challenges and leadership roles, we all take on," says another Ambassador. "There is never a dull moment and I definitely apply my critical thinking skills."

Ambassador Maisha Holmes (PSTI 02), believes in offering her knowledge and expertise for all PSTP activities. "I want to continuously empower pre-service teachers, because it is our knowledge that will continue to impact the future." Working as an



ambassador for two years, Ms. Holmes and many other ambassadors continue to connect and tell their stories of commitment while striving

forward. To learn more about serving as an ambassador for 2006, please contact Mr. Dave Pearson wpearson12@cox.net or (757)864-5268.



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Senate

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NASA/NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY PRE-SERVICE CONFERENCE

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I would like to recognize the outstanding growth and service of the NASA Langley Pre-Service Teacher Program. This year's national conference, which is being held this week from February 17 through 19, 2005, will mark the 10 year anniversary of this highly successful educational program.

The Pre-Service Teacher Program is a project run through the cooperation of NASA's Langley Office of Education and Norfolk State University's School of Science & Technology. Its mission is to provide Pre-Service teachers and faculty members opportunities to enhance their knowledge and skill in teaching mathematics and science using technology at the elementary and middle school levels.

Since its humble beginnings as a small regional conference held in Hampton, VA, in 1995, the Pre-Service Teacher Program has grown into a large national conference annually held in Alexandria, VA. The program began with only 25 member institutions representing 10 States and now boasts membership of over 104 institutions representing 31 States. It is important to recognize that of the 104 member institutions, there are representatives from Hispanic Serving Institutions, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

The Pre-Service Teacher Program's continued growth led to the addition of a Pre-Service Teacher Institute in 1998. This 2-week long immersion program allows more pre-service teachers the opportunity to interface with NASA personnel, tour Langley's facilities, and learn ways to incorporate NASA's cutting-edge research into lesson plans for elementary and middle school students. As the success of this program has grown, the Pre-Service Teacher Program expanded in 2000 to seven sites beyond Hampton, VA, and, with time, I am sure it will continue to grow.

I congratulate the Pre-Service Teacher Program's tremendous growth and impact on Virginia classrooms and schools across the Nation. They are to be commended for their hard work and attention to our Nation's future: our children. I wish them continued success, keep fighting and keep succeeding.

Your Words

Here are a few of your responses from past conferences and Institutes.

Letter to Congress

I am writing this letter to inform you about the NASA Pre-Service Teacher Institute. This is a wonderful opportunity for education majors to expand their knowledge base in areas of math, science, and technology. The instructors tailor their information to the needs of the participants and have provided resources for use in the classrooms.

I gained a solid amount of information in my field of mathematics. The instruction I received allowed me to develop ideas on making my lessons more interactive and hands-on. Overall, this is a wonderful, beneficial program for those preparing to teach. I ask and urge you to support this program and its efforts. It contributes to the preparedness of teachers, thus contributing to the future. Preparing and educating our students is the ultimate goal, so please do what you can to make this program known. I appreciate your time!

Malakeyah Hameed
Delaware State University

PSTI Participants

My goal at the beginning of the Institute was to obtain all the information I can to help my students become more successful in math, science, and technology. Now, I know I will be a better teacher as a result of this institute. I was given a great opportunity and now it is my responsibility to pass on this knowledge by implementing all of the valuable concepts and resources into a classroom.

Jennifer Green
University Texas of El Paso



The PSTI has been an exciting, educational, and rewarding experience. I came to the Institute with standard ideas and I am leaving with much broader views and fascinating concepts. Thank you to all that have made this journey possible.

Monica Lei Bagby
St. Paul College

Elizabeth City State University

As a participant for the last three years in the NASA/NSU Mathematics, Science, and Technology conference, I applaud the quality and content of the information shared with the pre-

service elementary education teachers. The conferences have enriched as well as reinforced lessons taught in our teaching methods classes. Our students have entered their student teaching experiences more confident as a result of the additional knowledge gained from their participation in the NASA/NSU annual conference. They have been so excited about the teaching materials distributed during the conference sessions that they eagerly planned an implemented an 'Elementary Education Mathematics, Science, and Technology Sharing Workshop' held here at Elizabeth City State University for our teaching majors last Spring. A similar sharing experience is planned for next semester and the audience will be broadened to include in-service teachers from surrounding school divisions. The benefits of the conference have been enormously rewarding and far reaching. Thank you for including ECSU in this exciting endeavor. (written in '97)

Dr. Barbara L. Johnson,
Elementary Education Program

The Conference keeps us abreast of various topics of interest/importance. Plus, NASA/PSTC grants the opportunity for our future teachers to mingle and exchange ideas. NASA resources, and contacts are supportive and helpful. Students are aware of the support and this builds stronger teachers.

'05 Conference Comments

Member Institutions and Colleges

1995-2005

Alabama A&M University
Alabama State University
Alcorn State University
Arkansas Baptist College
Bay Mills Community College
Benedict College
Bennett College
Bethune-Cookman College
Blackfeet Community College
Bowie State University
Bronx Community College
California State University-Fresno
California State University-LA
Cheney State University
Claflin University



Clemson University
Coppin State University
Delaware State University
Dillard University
Dine College
Dona Ana Community College
Eastern Oregon University
El Camino Community College
Elizabeth City State University
Fayetteville State University
Fisk University
Florida A&M University
Florida International University
Florida Memorial College
Fort Peck Community College
Grambling State University
Hampton University
Harris-Stowe State College
Haskett Indian Nations University
Jarvis Christian College
Kentucky Indian Reservation College
Kean University
Kentucky State University
Langston University



Lehman College-NY
Lemoyne-Owen College
Lincoln University-MD
Little Big Horn College
Livingstone College
Los Angeles City College
Medgar Evers College
Miami-Dade Community College
Miles College Alabama
Mississippi Valley State University
Morehouse College
Morgan State University
Morris Brown College
Morris College
Native Tribal Technical College
Nevada State College
New Jersey City University
New Mexico Highlands University
New Mexico State University
Norfolk State University
North Carolina A&T University
North Carolina Central University
Northeastern Illinois University
Oakwood College
Ogala Lakota College
Oregon State
Our Lady of the Lake University
Passaic County Community College
Pembroke College
Philander-Smith University
Portland Community College
Portland State University
Prairie View A&M University
Richard Daly College
Rust College
Salish Kootenai College
Shaw University
Sinte Gleska University
Si Tanka College
Sitting Bull College
South Carolina State University

Southern University-Baton Rouge
Spelman College
St. Augustine's College
St. Mary's University, TX
St. Paul's College, VA
Talladega College
Texas A&M University- Corpus Christi
Texas A&M University- Kingsville
Texas College
Tennessee State College
Toogaloo College
Towson State University
Turtle Mountain Community College
Tuskegee University
United Tribes Technical College
University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff
University of Delaware
University of the District of Columbia
University of Maine-Orono
University of Maryland-Eastern Shore
University of Montana
University of Oregon-Eugene
University of Oregon-Portland
University of South Carolina
University of Texas-Brownsville
University of Texas-El Paso
University of Texas-San Antonio
Virginia State University



Virginia Union University
West Virginia State College
Winston Salem State University
Xavier University-New Orleans

Hurdle for Teenagers H.S. Improvement Hinges On 'Critical' Subject

By Debra Viadero



Researchers from the United Negro College Fund went to West Virginia last year and asked 62 high school dropouts in the federal Job Corps program a simple, open-ended

question. "What was it about school," they wanted to know, "that caused you to quit?" With surprising consistency, a majority of the participants, most of whom were African-American or Hispanic, gave the same answer: "Math." Though the results are not scientific, they point to a challenge that confronts policymakers and educators as they campaign to make American high schools more academically

rigorous. Experts agree that if the goal is for all students to graduate from high school ready for college or other post-secondary study, schools have their work cut out for them, at least in mathematics. To read more on this article go to www.edweek.org.



Fun Site Pick!

After being inspired by the Taiko Ensemble, I found a website that gives you a fun lesson on specific beats and applying them mathematically. Check out this website.



www.toytheater.com

NASA/NSU Pre-Service Teacher Program

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